Vol. 2013, Number 35 July 23, 2013

Topics in this issue

Policies and Procedures: FFY2014 eHEAT Rollover

Updates: FFY2014 EAP State Plan Hearing Reminder; EAP Training Topic Requests; Proposed Federal LIHEAP

Performance Measures

Policies and Procedures:

FFY2014 eHEAT Rollover: eHEAT Default Program Year is 2014 as of August 1, 2013 eHEAT rollover is when the program data is set up for the next year. Rollover for FFY14 will occur Thursday, August 1, 2013. Once it rolls over, the default EAP program year in eHEAT will be "2014" due to this data rollover.

When searching or working on current year EAP applications, entering A16 activity or logging current applications for WAP only or to deny due to end of program year, be sure to select 2013 as the program year.

Contact eheat.doc@state.mn.us if you make an entry using an incorrect program year.

During the rollover process on August 1, eHEAT may need to be taken offline for the conversion and upload of EAP data. *A Spark* communications will be emailed to notify Service Providers when eHEAT will be unavailable.

Updates:

FFY2014 EAP State Plan Hearing Reminder

Service Providers and the public are encouraged and invited to comment on the proposed Minnesota State Plan for the Energy Assistance Program for federal fiscal year 2014 through written comment or at a public hearing. The hearing will be held Tuesday, July 30, 2013, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the State Office Building, 100 Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd., St. Paul. Written comments must be received at the address below by 5:00 p.m. on July 30, 2013 at the address below.

The FFY2014 LIHEAP State Plan describes how federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds will be used to help low-income households reduce their energy burdens. Comments received at the public hearing and in writing during the comment period will be considered in the development of the final LIHEAP State Plan.

The draft State Plan is located at http://mn.gov/commerce/energy/service-providers/For-EAP-Providers/EAP-State-Plan.jsp.

Click on "DRAFT FFY 2014 State Plan".

Written comments may be sent to: John M. Harvanko, Director Office of Energy Assistance Programs Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 - 7th Place East, Suite 500 St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Phone: (651) 284-3275 Fax: (651) 297-7891

E-mail: john.harvanko@state.mn.us

Vol. 2013, No. 35 July 23, 2013

EAP Training Topic Requests

The DOC EAP staff is committed to meeting the training and technical assistance needs of local EAP Service Providers. During the EAP Annual Training there may be the opportunity to deliver training topics requested by Service Providers. Send suggested topics for training or technical assistance to eap.mail@state.mn.us by this Friday, July 26, 2013. Please be specific in your request and keep in mind that EAP Annual Training does not focus on basic, entry-level information.

Proposed Federal LIHEAP Performance Measures

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), which oversees LIHEAP, is proposing three new mandatory performance measures beginning in FFY15. Before data collection for these measures can be officially adopted, HHS must follow a formal notice and approval process. The first step in this process is the publication of the proposal in the Federal Register with a 60 day comment period. The notice can be found here.

If you have comments on the measures, please follow the instructions in the notice. Comments are due by August 5, 2013. Note that the notice incorrectly states the measures will be required for FFY14. EAP has confirmed with HHS the measures are actually proposed to be required for FFY15.